

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11, 13-26, 28-38, 40, and 42-50 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 1-11, 13-26, 28-38, 40 and 44 have been rejected. The Applicants thank the Examiner for allowance of claims 42, 43 and 45-50.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-11, 16-18, 20-23, 25-26, 28-30, 32-35, 37-38 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haun et al. (6,259,996) in view of Dougherty (4,589,052) and in view of Lee (5,107,208). As previously stated, these references must be considered in their entirety. It is the Applicants' belief that at least Dougherty teaches away from the combination of Haun and Lee. Dougherty expressly states that the "combination of analogue and digital circuit elements is not readily implemented within a single integrated circuit chip," thus leading the reader away from the desirability of such a combination. Therefore, a person of ordinary skill in the art reading Dougherty would not have looked to combine the circuit for analyzing and the controller onto a single ASIC.

The Examiner points to Lee as providing proof that one of ordinary skill in the art would have known that the controller and circuit for analyzing could be combined onto a single ASIC. However, as stated previously, it is the Applicants' belief that Dougherty teaches away from looking to Lee. Dougherty, while acknowledging the possible cost benefits, expressly states that such a combination is not readily implemented. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be led to look for other references, such as Lee. Because Dougherty effectively teaches away from the combination by stating that the combination is not possible, Dougherty cannot also contain the motivation to combine the various references.

For at least these reasons, claims -3, 5-7, 10-11, 16-18, 20-23, 25-26, 28-30, 32-35, 37-38 and 44 are believed to be allowable over the prior art.

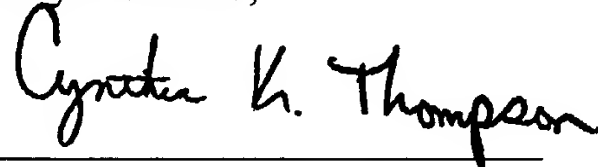
Claims 42-43 and 45-46 are dependent on allowable claims 47, 48 and therefore allowable.

Conclusion

It is the Applicants' belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and action towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,



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By _____
Cynthia K. Thompson
Reg. No. 48,655
Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C.
225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3418
One of the Attorneys for Applicants
(312) 425-3900